

**SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF
MARK C. FURTICK, P.E.
ON BEHALF OF
DOMINION ENERGY SOUTH CAROLINA, INC.
DOCKET NO. 2020-63-E**

1 **Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME, BUSINESS ADDRESS, AND**
2 **OCCUPATION.**

3 A. My name is Mark C. Furtick. My business address is 220 Operation Way,
4 Cayce, South Carolina. I am Manager of Renewable Energy Programs and
5 Technical Services for Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc. (“DESC”).
6

7 **Q. ARE YOU THE SAME MARK FURTICK THAT OFFERED DIRECT**
8 **TESTIMONY IN THIS DOCKET?**

9 A. Yes, I am.
10

11 **Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY?**

12 A. The purpose of my testimony is to address items raised by Bridgestone
13 Americas Tire Operations, LLC (“BATO”) in the rebuttal testimony of BATO
14 Witness McGavran related to the solar generating facility (“Generating Facility”)
15 which BATO proposes to place into operation. I will explain that generators

1 operating in parallel—whether industrial, behind-the-meter, residential rooftop
2 solar, or utility-scale—are subject to and processed in accordance with the South
3 Carolina Standard. I will also explain why (i) the Generating Facility is very
4 different from the stand-by generation cited in BATO’s rebuttal testimony, (ii)
5 DESC cannot simply permit the Generating Facility to operate in parallel based
6 solely upon other previous events on the DESC system, and (iii) DESC cannot
7 make an exception for even one project, regardless of size or nature of the DESC
8 system.

9
10 **Q. ON PAGE 2, LINE 19, THROUGH PAGE 3, LINE 6, BATO WITNESS**
11 **MCGAVRAN CLAIMS THAT DESC BELIEVES ALL STAND-BY**
12 **GENERATION AND CUSTOMER-OWNED GENERATION PLACED**
13 **INTO SERVICE IS SUBJECT TO THE SOUTH CAROLINA STANDARD.**
14 **DOES THIS ACCURATELY SUMMARIZE DESC’S POSITION?**

15 A. No, this is a blatant mischaracterization of DESC’s position and reveals a
16 fundamental misunderstanding of the South Carolina Standard. Indeed, BATO
17 Witness McGavran’s summary of DESC’s position is in direct conflict with page 6,
18 lines 1-6, of my direct testimony, which essentially describes a stand-by generator,
19 and stipulates that such a “stand-alone system, which may be referred to as a ‘non-
20 parallel’ system” would not be subject to the South Carolina Standard. As such, I

1 am unsure why BATO Witness McGavran feels that is an accurate summary of
2 DESC's position given this testimony.

3 To be clear, BATO Witness McGavran continues to make distinctions that
4 are of no consequence to the South Carolina Standard. The South Carolina Standard
5 does not distinguish between "customer generation" and "stand-by generation," just
6 as it does not distinguish between a series connection or a parallel connection. The
7 crucial factors are interconnection and parallel operation. Therefore, it is not
8 DESC's position that all customer-owned generation and all stand-by generation
9 would be subject to the South Carolina Standard. Unlike the Generating Facility,
10 stand-by generation does not operate in conjunction with power supplied by DESC.
11 Standby-by generation operates in isolation and not in parallel—such as during a
12 power interruption when DESC is not flowing power—and such projects are not
13 within the scope of the South Carolina Standard.

14 DESC has processed thousands of requests under the South Carolina
15 Standard for residential customers utilizing rooftop solar and industrial, behind-the-
16 meter, generation. In fact, I cannot think of a situation where any such generation—
17 that is not stand-by generation only—would be placed into service on the DESC
18 system without first following the South Carolina Standard. As such, even small
19 projects like rooftop solar, which involve behind-the-meter generation that is meant
20 to flow power in conjunction with DESC to the same premises—precisely the

1 operating posture of the Generating Facility—are subject to the South Carolina
2 Standard.

3 By way of further explanation, although the South Carolina Standard does
4 not distinguish by resource, the nature of solar is such that it would very rarely, if
5 ever, be characterized as a stand-by generator not subject to the South Carolina
6 Standard. Solar generation, by nature, is intermittent because it is largely reliant
7 upon weather patterns. This means that solar generation may experience large,
8 unexpected increases and drops in generation output. Given that stand-by
9 generators must be ready when called upon because the facility would have no other
10 source of power at the time, the intermittent nature of solar generation makes it ill-
11 equipped to operate as a stand-by generator. Clearly, the Generating Facility is not
12 a stand-by generator, and it is even more crucial that the South Carolina Standard
13 apply here given that DESC would be flowing power in conjunction with such a
14 variable power supply.

15
16 **Q. ON PAGE 6 AND PAGE 7, BATO WITNESS MCGAVRAN POINTS TO**
17 **INCIDENTS AT OTHER BATO FACILITIES TO JUSTIFY THE**
18 **INTERCONNECTION AND PARALLEL OPERATION OF THE**
19 **GENERATING FACILITY. DOES THE SOUTH CAROLINA STANDARD**
20 **PERMIT GENERATORS TO INTERCONNECT AND OPERATE IN**
21 **PARALLEL WITHOUT REVIEW SO LONG AS SUCH GENERATOR HAS**

1 **A TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTIC IN COMMON WITH OTHERS ON**
2 **THE DESC SYSTEM?**

3 A. No, it certainly does not. As an initial point, BATO Witness McGavran
4 points to specific operations and technical characteristics, which would all be
5 studied pursuant to the interconnection queue process. However, these references
6 to other facilities (which do not incorporate solar generation) and specific events
7 should not obscure the ultimate question that is before the Commission—is the
8 Generating Facility subject to the South Carolina Standard? At its core, that is the
9 issue around which this dispute revolves.

10 Regardless, nowhere does the South Carolina Standard permit DESC to
11 allow a generator to operate in parallel based upon events on another part of the
12 DESC system solely based on technical characteristics it may have in common with
13 other facilities on the DESC system. The South Carolina Standard requires DESC
14 to review each generator and the effects such generator would have on the DESC
15 system prior to interconnection and parallel operation. A fundamental principle of
16 this process is that DESC must review the specific characteristics of each such
17 generator. BATO Witness McGavran’s testimony points to “real-world proof” at
18 another BATO facility in Aiken, South Carolina, to, apparently, conclude that the
19 Generating Facility can be safely and reliably interconnected to the DESC system
20 without any review or study under the South Carolina Standard whatsoever.

1 To be clear, this is a concept completely foreign to the South Carolina
2 Standard. BATO Witness McGavran, through his testimony seems to bait DESC
3 into analyzing the operating characteristics, engineering specifications, and
4 corresponding effects on the DESC system in order to sidestep the initial threshold
5 question of the applicability of the South Carolina Standard. However, just like all
6 other generators in DESC's interconnection queue, these analyses will take place in
7 accordance with the procedures set forth in the South Carolina Standard, and in no
8 case are the results of the study and review process a pre-requisite to determining
9 whether the South Carolina Standard applies. It would be inappropriate and unfair
10 for DESC to take on such an evaluation at this point simply because BATO confuses
11 the issue or "squeaks the loudest."

12 To illustrate the danger to the DESC system inherent in BATO Witness
13 McGavran's preferred approach, I will provide an example. If the South Carolina
14 Standard mandated that projects could bypass the study and review process, so long
15 as DESC had another project with similar characteristics on the system already, this
16 would mean that thousands upon thousands of rooftop solar customers would be
17 exempt from the South Carolina Standard entirely given that one rooftop solar
18 customer went through the South Carolina Standard and was placed on the DESC
19 system.

20 Alternatively, what if the Generating Facility was not just under 2 MW, but
21 was instead 20 MW? Would the interconnection customer be taken seriously saying

1 there is no need to process such a proposed facility under the South Carolina
2 Standard based on the customer's load profiles or other interconnected generating
3 facilities? Should DESC allow a 20 MW generator to operate on the DESC system
4 without an executed interconnection agreement that spells out compliance with
5 design and operating standards, like the IEEE standards? Certainly, the
6 consequences of permitting such a generator to interconnect without review may be
7 clearer at that size, but the need to study and review such generator, as well as have
8 such generator contractually commit to follow industry standards and Good Utility
9 Practices (as defined in the South Carolina Standard), is no more or less compelling
10 based on size. The fundamental point is that the South Carolina Standard does not
11 distinguish along those lines, but does require DESC to process all such
12 generators—of whatever size or configuration—that intend to interconnect and
13 operate in parallel under the South Carolina Standard.

14
15 **Q. GIVEN YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES AND PAST EXPERIENCES AT DESC,**
16 **CAN YOU EXPLAIN HOW BATO'S POSITION RELATES TO OTHER**
17 **SIMILARLY-SITUATED GENERATORS WITH WHICH YOU HAVE**
18 **DEALT?**

19 **A.**DESC often gets questions from developers related to the queue process and
20 requests to exempt certain projects from various requirements of the South Carolina
21 Standard. Although I understand that each generator may look at their project in

1 isolation and believe that an exception for such project when compared to the entire
2 DESC system would be appropriate, DESC is tasked with maintaining the entire
3 DESC system. As discussed by DESC Witness Hammond and DESC Witness
4 Raftery in his direct testimony, this is precisely why the South Carolina Standard is
5 so important because it gives DESC the rules by which it must manage the
6 interconnection queue in a non-discriminatory manner to ensure that DESC's entire
7 system remains safe and reliable. If the Generating Facility were not subject to the
8 South Carolina Standard, it would provide a path forward in the future for numerous
9 generators, of any size, to interconnect and operate in parallel with DESC, while
10 bypassing the (i) Commission and (ii) the study and review process DESC is
11 required to undertake to ensure the DESC system can continue to operate safely and
12 reliably upon interconnection.

13
14 **Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY?**

15 **A. Yes.**